

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for producing coke, comprising:

mixing 100 parts by weight of mesophase pitch with 10 to 1,000 parts by weight of coal tar pitch to prepare a pitch composition; and

5 heat-treating the pitch composition at a temperature of 500°C or higher.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the mesophase pitch has a softening point of 150°C or higher as measured by an elevated flow tester method, and a carbonization yield of 70% or higher.

3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the mesophase pitch is a  
10 pitch produced by polymerizing a condensed polycyclic hydrocarbon or a substance containing the condensed polycyclic hydrocarbon in the presence of hydrogen fluoride-boron trifluoride.

4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the coal tar pitch contains substantially no quinoline insolubles (QI).

15 5. The process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of mixing 100 parts by weight of the pitch composition with 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of sulfur.

6. A process for producing an artificial graphite, comprising:

graphitizing the coke produced according to claim 1, at a temperature of  
20 2,000°C or higher.

7. A process for producing a carbon material for a negative electrode of non-aqueous solvent type secondary battery, comprising:

pulverizing the coke produced according to claim 1; and

graphitizing the pulverized coke at a temperature of 2,000°C or higher.

25 8. A pitch composition comprising 100 parts by weight of mesophase pitch and 10 to 1,000 parts by weight of coal tar pitch, and having an optically anisotropic content of 1 to 99% by volume.

9. The pitch composition according to claim 8, wherein the mesophase pitch is a pitch produced by polymerizing a condensed polycyclic hydrocarbon or

a substance containing the condensed polycyclic hydrocarbon in the presence of hydrogen fluoride-boron trifluoride.